(ग) मंत्रालय द्वारा स्वैच्छिक संगठनों को सीधे सहायता दी जाती है, राज्य सरकारों को नहीं ।

(घ) से (च) उक्त योजना के तहत पुनर्वास सुविधायें प्रदान करने के लिये दी गई सहायता से गुजरात राज्य में 17 गैर सरकारी संगठन कार्य कर रहे हैं ।

(छ) योजनाओं का विस्तृत प्रचार किया जा रहा है तथा गैर सरकारी संगठनों को अनुदान के लिये आवेदन भेजने हेतु प्रोत्साहित किया जा रहा है । ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में काम कर रहे गैर सरकारी संगठनों को वित्तीय समर्थन 90% से बढ़ाकर 95 % कर दिया गया है । इसके परिणामस्वरूप स्वैच्छिक संगठनों को सहायता की राशि 1992–93 के 6.80 करोड़ रुपये से बढ़ाकर 1993–94 में 10.40 करोड़ रुपये हो गया है । गैर सरकारी संगठनों की संख्या भी 1992–93 के 302 से बढ़कर 1993–94 में 315 हो गई है ।

Newspaper Report on Child Prostitutes

669. SHRI VIREN J SHAH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the Hindustan Times of October 5, 1994 under the heading, "India has four lakh child prostitutes;"

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard and what is their number, State-wise; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to save the lives of unfortunate and helpless children from sex exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no scientific data available about the number of Child Prostitutes in India and its pervasiveness. However, the Government is very concerned about this phenomenon and feels that the problem of child prostitution is linked to the general problem of prostitution in the society.

(c) The Government of India has set up a Central Advisory Committee to frame recommendation/plan of action for both legal and non-legal approaches for the rescue and rehabilitation of child prostitutes. The recommendations of the Committee have been sent to the concerned Central Ministries/Departments and to the State Governments for taking appropriate action.

Many of the State Governments have set up State Advisory Committees within their jurisdiction for suggesting measures for the care protection, treatment and rehabilitation of the Young victims rescued from brothel houses.

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 supplemented by the Indian Penal Code prohibits trafficking in human beings including children. Higher penalties, punishments have been prescribed in cases relating to the prostitution of a child or a minor, under the Act. The Juveniles Justice Act, 1986 provides for the care protection, treatment and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent juveniles including girls.

The enforcement of the Acts is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government have issued instructions from time to time to all States/Union Territories for strict implementation of the Act. Meetings with DGPs of all the States have been held in this regard.

The Government has an extensive network of Short Stay Home set up under the Juvenile Justice Act for protection and rehabilitation of the victims The services of qualified doctors, psychiatrists are available in the Short Stay Homes. These services are available on part time basis in the Homes under Juvenile Justice Act.

A National Plan of Action for the SAARC Decade (1991—2000 AD) of the girl child focussing on survival, protection and development of the girl child has been formulated. A special set of interventions for adolescent girls has

been institutionalised through the ICDS infrastructure. Programmes of action and advocacy are being implemented to project positive images of girl children so as to bring about changes in societal attitudes towards them.

UN Report on child abuse

670. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a new United Nations report on child abuse mentioning that young children from India are still being sold as jockeys for camel racing in the Gulf States or as young brides to older men in Saudi Arabia; and

(b) if so, how Government propose to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir. Attention of the Government has been drawn to the Interim Report submitted by the Special Rapportour on Sale of Child Prostitution and Child Pornography appointed by the UN Commission on Human Rights. The Report, inter-alia, touches all issues such as forms of child abuse, e.g. abduction, child jockeys for camel racing and child brides being married to older men from the Gulf States, etc. The Report deals with these issues and problems in the regional prospective and refers to the situation in other countries as well.

(b) Government have already taken necessary steps to sensitise officers of the Police Department to take immediate legal action whenever such incident comes to their notice. In order to check this practice, immigration authorities have been directed to be more vigilant while scrutinizing the travel documents of the persons (including Indians) accompanying such minor children and/or minor brides at the immigration check points.

Source of livelihood of tribals

671. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the main source of livelihood of the tribals in Tribal Sub Plan area;

(b) the thrust area identified in the Eight Plan to increase their income and new avenues of employment to the tribals; and

(c) the total amount proposed to be spent during the Eighth Five Year Plan period on Human Resource Development through education and vocational/craftsman training to improve the skills of the Tribals?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The main sources of livelihood of tribals in Tribal Sub-Plan area vary from region to region and differ within communities of tribal groups in India. But, generally they depend mainly on agriculture and related activities including agricultural labour and collection of minor forest produce. The income of tribals also comes through hendicrafts, leaf plate making, bee-keeping and weaving etc.

(b) The thrust areas identified are taking up family oriented beneficiary programmes through raising productivity level of the beneficiary families in the field of agdiculture horiticulture, animal husbandary and small industries etc, vocational training for self-employment, procurement and marketing of Surplus Agricultural Produce and Minor Forest Produce and Employment Assurance Scheme etc.

(c) The total amount proposed to be spent by this Ministry on Human Resource Development through education and vocational/craftsman training to improve the skills of tribals is Rs. 60 crores besides Rs. 337.60 crores under schemes for Post-Matric Scholarship, Book Banks and Upgradation of Merit of students which are both for SC/ST students.

Meeting on Children's Welfare

672. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICCW (Indian Council for Child Welfare) recently organised